

Bio for Cody Kusch:

My Philosophy

In order for the Richmond Jets Board of Directors to make improvements to their existing hockey program, a group of knowledgeable, passionate, and committed people are necessary. My 10 years of board experience in the local hockey community of Richmond will be a great asset to the transition of knowledge and experience needed to formulate a strong, cohesive and supportive board. Outlined below are some of the priorities and goals needed to continue building and improving upon the good work that was created by the existing 12 Board of Directors.

PRIORITIES AND GOALS:

Hockey Programming – The idea that all parents want their kids on the ice as many times a week as possible, does not work for most families, and has resulted in an increase in player injuries/“burnout” and hectic schedules for parents:

- while paid skill instruction will remain part of the Hockey 1-4 program, Intro to Hockey, and Atom – Midget (Both Rep and C players/goalies), we need to allow parents a choice to participate in a paid skills program or a voluntarily opt in skills program. This choice will mean that parents will not be forced to pay for a skills program that they did not request or are unable to attend.
- enhanced intro to hockey and inclusion of first shift programming.
- a more practical coaching development program and mentor management committees for all managers and coaches; regardless of their experience.
- Pre and Post player/goalie/coach evaluations for rep selection process.

Association Building – We want our members to enjoy being a part of our association, through special events such as:

- Adult and player golf tournaments
- Summer Family Swims and Picnics
- Year End Volunteer and Sponsor Appreciation Night
- Summer and in-season Equipment Swaps
- A volunteer fair identifying ways for volunteers to get involved and join committees

Community Building – we want our members to give back to the community through special events such as:

- Steveston Sweep the Streets
- Richmond Food Bank Drive
- Food for Life - Church on Five
- Various Charity Fundraisers - ie. Head Shaving
- Steveston Salmon Festival Parade

Financial Transparency/Accountability – we want our members to feel confident that all revenues are being collected and spent responsibly:

- all tournament bookkeeping/finance will be run through the association; an internal audit on existing tournaments to see what should be changed or included for next year.
- Year-end financials for the season that just completed, and will be presented to the membership at the year-end AGM
- the need for paid positions will be reviewed on a regular basis and input gathered from the membership will be crucial
- RFP Processing will be thorough, fair and remain professional for all submissions
- reduced registration rates and rep fees for all Richmond Jets Players in the 2019/2020 Season

Consulting with the Membership – rather than a small group of volunteers making all the decisions, we will look to the membership to make decisions such as:

- naming and Branding rights
- jersey Design and Apparel
- choosing association award winners for coaches, managers, volunteers and other staff
- how to provide the most robust scholarship program available to Jet's members
- spring hockey - cost affordability and top-level development; stronger ties to the local junior and non-junior clubs (Richmond Sockeyes and Richmond Ravens)

Further Strengthening the Hockey Culture in Richmond:

- value and respect for all city of Richmond hockey families
- sharing of best practices and on/off-ice resources between local minor hockey associations (ie. Ravens and Jets)
- Improving all areas of communication from within the Jets association and beyond; form a communication committee to conduct a needs assessment.
- establish a volunteer committee that focuses on attracting great people to get involved

Thank-you for taking the necessary time to better understand who I am and why I am wanting to be apart of the Richmond Jets Minor Hockey Association as a Director, for my second year. By working together as a supportive group and becoming better listeners to its existing members, we can together create something special. Let's remember one thing, it should never be about ourselves; instead it should always be about all the kids!!!

Cody Kusch